We Claim:

1.   A method for determining interference power in a CDMA radio receiver, which comprises:

after obtaining a despread signal by despreading a received signal, determining an interference power of the despread signal by comparing received symbols with symbols that are known a-priori to the receiver and with received data symbols that are not known a-priori to the receiver and determined data symbols that are not known a-priori to the receiver.

2.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining the interference power of the despread signal is performed in a signal path downstream from the receiver.

3.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining the interference power of the despread signal is performed in a signal path downstream from the receiver, and the receiver is a RAKE receiver.

4.   The method according to claim 1, wherein:

the receiver is a RAKE receiver having at least two RAKE fingers and a combiner configured downstream from the RAKE fingers; and

the step of determining the interference power of the despread signal includes obtaining measured path interference powers by measuring individual path interference powers of each of the RAKE fingers and calculating the interference power from the measured path interference powers.

5.   The method according to claim 1, which comprises:

determining a power of the symbols that are known a-priori and a power of the determined data symbols that are not known a-priori; and

performing the step of determining the interference power of the despread signal by taking into account the power of the symbols that are known a-priori and the power of the determined data symbols that are not known a-priori.

6.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the symbols that are known a-priori are pilot symbols and the received data symbols that are not known a-priori to the receiver and the determined data symbols that are not known a-priori are payload data symbols for an individual physical channel.

7.   The method according to claim 6, wherein the individual physical channel is a dedicated DPCH channel in accordance with a UMTS Standard.

8. The method according to claim 6, wherein the step of determining the interference power of the despread signal includes using symbols that are known a-priori and/or symbols that are not known a-priori for at least one further physical channel.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the further physical channel is a common pilot channel.

10. The method according to claim 1, which comprises using the interference power that has been determined for a channel-specific control of a signal-to-noise ratio on a downlink path.

11. A CDMA radio receiver for receiving a signal of spread-coded symbols that are transmitted via a transmission channel, the CDMA radio receiver comprising:

a unit for proving a despread signal by despreading the signal that has been received;

a channel estimator for determining channel parameters for the transmission channel;

a receiver having an output;

a data symbol decision maker connected to said output of said receiver; and

a device for determining an interference power of the despread signal;

said device for determining the interference power supplied with the channel parameters determined by said channel estimator;

said device for determining the interference power supplied with data symbols determined by said data symbol decision maker;

said device for determining the interference power designed for determining the interference power of the despread signal by comparing received data symbols with symbols that are known a-priori in said receiver and data symbols that are not known a-priori in said receiver; and

said data symbol decision maker determining the data symbols that are not known a-priori in said receiver.

12.   The CDMA radio receiver according to claim 11, wherein said device for determining the interference power receives detected symbols.

13.   The CDMA radio receiver according to claim 11, wherein:

said receiver is a RAKE receiver that has at least two RAKE fingers with outputs providing received symbols;

said RAKE receiver has a combiner with inputs connected to said outputs of said RAKE fingers; and

said device for determining the interference power receives the received symbols from said outputs of said RAKE fingers.